



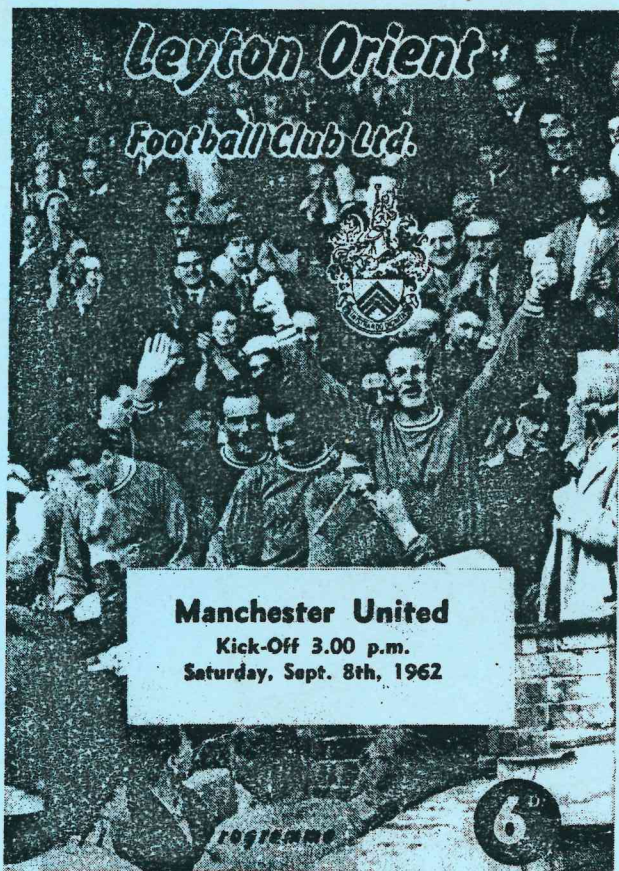
Leyton Orient

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**FORTY YEARS ON FROM THIS GAME
WHERE DID IT ALL GO WRONG?**

LEYTON ORIENT 1 MANCHESTER UNITED 0

40 years on from that dramatic day in September 1962 the mag grabs a word with the days hero, Terry McDonald.

Orienteer: Was scoring the winner against Man U the highlight of your career?

Terry McDonald: OIt has to be, simply because what United stand for now and what it meant to O's supporters and the club at that time. Everyone talks about beating Man U, but that completed a great purple patch which included home wins over West Ham and Everton, too. We caught United at a good time when they were in transition and struggling in the bottom third of the table, although they ended up winning the FA Cup that season, while Everton were champions.

O: So tell us about your most famous goal?

TM: Eddie Lewis cleared the ball to the halfway line, where their right-back, Shay Brennan, miscontrolled it. I latched onto the loose ball and sprinted to the centre edge of their penalty area. I could see big Maurice Setters and Tony Dunne coming across to challenge me, so I drove the ball right-footed past David Gaskell into the top right-hand corner of the net at the Coronation Gardens end. There was just time for them to kick off again when the ref blew for full-time. My only regret is that there were no photographers at that end of the ground to capture my goal on film - they were all at the other end waiting for Denis Law to score! He'd just come back from Italy, where he'd been playing for AC Milan, and was still looking for his first goal following his massive £115,000 move.

O: Can you remember your goal celebration?

TM: We didn't go mad after scoring in those days, although Eddie Lewis used to 'shake hands' with the corner flag. That was about as extravagant as it got in those days. No, I probably received a few hugs and pats on the back from team-mates, and just jogged back into our half, that's all we did then.

O: What was the atmosphere like in the dressing room afterwards?

TM: Obviously, everyone was delighted. The manager, Johnny Carey, was the first to come over to me, saying: 'Well done, son'.



Being a former United star himself, he was especially happy we had beaten them and his old boss, Matt Busby.

O: Did you enjoy a night on the town with the other lads afterwards?

TM: I can't remember exactly what we did that night, but it was probably the usual routine. We were a good social side and about seven or eight of us - led by skipper Stan Charlton - would always join the fans for a drink in the supporters' club after home matches. I think it was where the players' bar is today. A little later, we'd move on for more drinks at The Harold pub, just the other side of Leyton tube station.

O: What sort of money would you have been on at the time?

TM: Our basic pay was £45 per week, plus bonuses of £4 for a win and £2 for a draw. There was also an incentive related to our league position, but we didn't see much of that! The players had asked the directors about a possible incentive related to the attendance figures, but they wouldn't agree to it. We'd have done okay out of that.

O: It must have been a great experience playing in the First Division against the likes of Denis Law?

TM: It was, of course. Funnily enough, I met Denis again three years ago, when he was signing his autobiography, 'Lawman', in the Waterstones shop near where I worked in Leadenhall Market. I bought a copy, queued up to get it signed by Denis and then had a brief chat with him. I surprised him by saying I had the pleasure of playing against him several times - when he played for Huddersfield Town as well as Man U Ⓓ and I referred to the part in his book where he said that United were going through a difficult time when they visited Orient and even lost to them!. He asked if

I'd played in that game. He said that Sir Matt had kept the United players behind in the dressing room for a bollocking afterwards...and I told him the O's players were all in the bar by then! That was a very special time for all of us at Orient, though, because apart from the United players, we also came up against the likes of West Ham's international trio Bobby Moore, Johnny Byrne and Martin Peters, Joe Baker and George Eastham of Arsenal, plus Alex Young and Roy Vernon of Everton.

O: Do people still come up to you and talk about the Man U game and your goal?

TM: I try to get to as many Orient home games as possible and it's great to see all the old faces still there. I pop into the supporters' club for a beer and chat to them in there. People say they saw me score against United, even though many of them were only kids at the time. John Pratt, the former Spurs midfielder, told me that he was playing for a local boys' side on Hackney Marshes that afternoon, and he heard the roar of the crowd when I scored. It's still a great pleasure to look back on it and my time at Orient in general. It was very nice to get all the acclaim and the headlines after the game, it doesn't get any better than that for me, but Dave Dunmore and Gordon Bolland also went very close to scoring that afternoon and they could just as easily have been the heroes that day. We were very much a team who played and socialised together. There were no individuals, we all had our feet on the ground.

O: Did you score any other First Division goals?

TM: Just the one, at Fulham, direct from a corner kick, when we won 2-0. I don't know why, but I didn't seem to see eye to eye with the manager after that and after playing in the side at Arsenal in December, I never played again in the top flight. Carey obviously wanted to change things around to try and get some results - Ronnie Foster moved to Grimsby Town and he brought in Malcolm Musgrove to play in my position on the left-wing. Changes were made but the defeats kept mounting up and, unfortunately, we still ended up bottom of the league.

O: So after a great start, beating West Ham (2-0), Everton (3-0) and Manchester United (1-0) all in the space of 10 days in September 1962, where did it all go wrong?

TM: We just fell short of the calibre required at that level, but I think we were only wiped out on two occasions - 5-1 by Spurs, who were one of the best sides in the division then and finished runners-up to Everton, and by Liverpool, up at Anfield. We lost 21 matches by a single goal margin, which shows that we were not totally outclassed. The goals dried up for the forwards, while probably our wing-halves, Mal Lucas and Cyril Lea, were having to do too much defending to get forward as much as they would have liked. Our defenders did well, though, and played some good football. We were a good footballing side and tried to play the right way. Even after those three great wins at the start, we knew how hard it would be after winning promotion with Liverpool the year before. We were never complacent, we just weren't quite up to it.

O: Do you keep in touch with the other players from that era?

TM: Yes, a few of them. I've met up with Stan Charlton and Syd Bishop at Brisbane Road several times in recent years, and stayed down at Stan's place in Weymouth for a few days. He cycles to the pub now! I also saw Malcolm Graham, who scored both goals in our promotion-clincher against Bury in 1962, at one of the supporters' club dinners. In fact, we're planning to get the boys together again for a reunion that the supporters' club are organising, in conjunction with the club, to coincide with the home game against Bury on November 2. I'm trying to track down as many of the old players as possible by phone and letter. Some of the lads will have to come long distances, so maybe there is a kind sponsor or two out there who could help us to reduce their travel and overnight accommodation costs? It would be great to hear from someone who could help out.

Special thanks to Tony McDonald and of course Terry